THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHESTER: A DESCRIPTION OF THE FABRIC AND A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL SEE

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The Cathedral Church of Chester: A Description of the Fabric and a Brief History of the Episcopal See by Charles Hiatt

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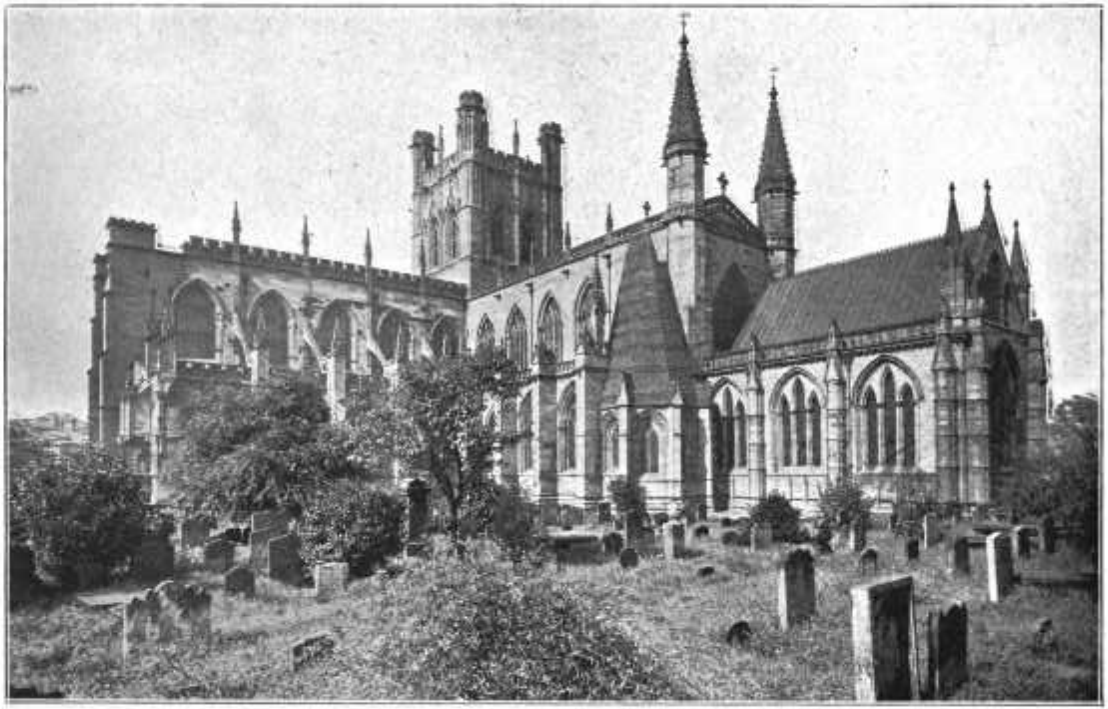
EDITED BY

GLEESON WHITE AND EDWARD F. STRANGE

CHESTER



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CHESTER CATHEDRAL, FROM THE WALLS.

THE CATHEDRAL CHURCH OF CHESTER

A DESCRIPTION OF THE FABRIC AND A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE EPISCOPAL SEE

BY CHARLES HIATT

LONDON GEORGE BELL & SONS 1898

GENERAL PREFACE.

THIS series of monographs has been planned to supply visitors to the great English Cathedrals with accurate and well illustrated guide books at a popular price. The aim of each writer has been to produce a work compiled with sufficient knowledge and scholarship to be of value to the student of archæology and history, and yet not too technical in language for the use of an ordinary visitor or tourist.

To specify all the authorities which have been made use of in each case would be difficult and tedious in this place. But amongst the general sources of information which have been almost invariably found useful are:—firstly, the great county histories, the value of which, especially in questions of genealogy and local records, is generally recognized; secondly, the numerous papers by experts which appear from time to time in the transactions of the antiquarian and archæological societies; thirdly, the important documents made accessible in the series issued by the Master of the Rolls; fourthly, the well-known works of Britton and Willis on the English Cathedrals; and, lastly, the very excellent series of Handbooks to the Cathedrals, originated by the late Mr. John Murray, to which the reader may in most cases be referred for fuller detail, especially in reference to the histories of the respective sees.

GLEESON WHITE.
E. F. STRANGE.
Editors of the Series.

AUTHOR'S PREFACE TO THE SECOND EDITION.

It would be impossible to give here the titles of the numerous works of reference which have been consulted in the course of the compilation of this handbook. Needless to say, Ormerod's great work has been frequently laid under contribution, while much valuable material has been found in the "Journal of the Chester Architectural and Archæological Society." Owing to the courtesy of Messrs. Phillipson and Golder, the writer is enabled to include the account of the woodwork in the choir from Dean Howson's "Handbook," of which they are the publishers. Messrs. Catherall and Prichard have allowed him to make use of the specification of the organ contained in their "New Guide to Chester."

The second edition has been enlarged by the addition of a whole chapter of letterpress, and several illustrations are now given for the first time. The book has also undergone thorough revision. In this task the writer has received invaluable help from the Rev. J. M. New, honorary secretary of the Chester and North Wales Archæological and Historic Society, to whom his sincere thanks are due. The Dean of Chester has also been kind enough to suggest various alterations. The illustrations, for the most part, are from photographs by H. C. Oakden, Esq., and Messrs. Carl Norman and Co., of Tunbridge Wells. Mr. F. W. Chapman, of Chester, has consented to the reproduction of photographs in Pettitt's series, of which he owns the copyright; while to Mr. R. W. Morris, of Cathedral Studio, Chester, is due the new picture of the interior of the Chapter House. To the editors of the "Cathedral Series" the writer is much indebted for the many useful suggestions which from time to time they have made.

Charles Hiatt.

London, 1898.